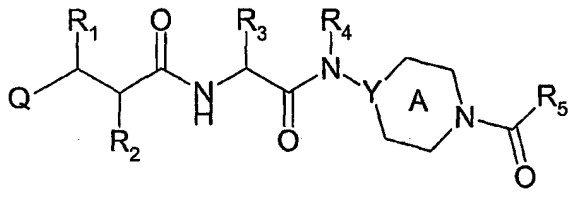
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (II), or a pharmaceutical or veterinarily acceptable salt, hydrate or solvate thereof



(II)

wherein

Q represents a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O) or formula -C(=O)NH(OH);

R_1 represents hydrogen, methyl or trifluoromethyl, or, except when Z is a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O), a hydroxy, halo or amino group;

R_2 represents a group R_{10}-$(V)_n$-$(ALK)_m$- wherein

R_{10} represents hydrogen, or a C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, C_2-C_6 alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl group, any of which may be unsubstituted or substituted by (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, hydroxy, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, amino, halo ~~(including fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo)~~, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, oxo, -COOH, $-CONH_2$, $-COOR^A$, $-NHCOR^A$, $-CONHR^A$, $-NHR^A$, $-NR^AR^B$, or $-CONR^AR^B$ wherein R^A and R^B are independently a (C_1-C_6)alkyl group and

ALK represents a straight or branched divalent C_1-C_6 alkylene, C_2-C_6 alkenylene, or C_2-C_6 alkynylene radical, and may be interrupted by one or more non-adjacent -NH-, -O- or -S-linkages,

V represents -NH-, -O- or -S-, and

m and n are independently 0 or 1;

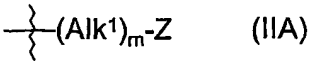
R_3 represents the side chain of a natural or non-natural alpha amino acid;

R_4 represents hydrogen or C_1-C_3 alkyl;

Y represents N or CH;

ring A is optionally substituted on one or more ring carbon atoms by C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, or halo; and

R_5 represents a group (IIA),



(IIA)

wherein

m is 0 or 1;

Alk^1 represents a divalent C_1-C_3 alkylene radical;

Z represents hydrogen or cycloalkyl, phenyl or heterocyclic which is optionally substituted by

$(C_1$-$C_6)$alkyl,

phenyl,

monocyclic 5 or 6-membered heterocyclic,

benzyl,

phenoxy, or $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkoxy,

phenylthio or $(C_1$-$C_6)$alkylthio, any of which is in turn optionally substituted by:

hydroxy or mercapto,

trifluoromethyl,

oxo,

nitro,

cyano (-CN),

bromo, chloro, fluoro, or iodo,

-COOH, or -$COOR^A$,

-$CONH_2$, -$CONHR^A$, or -$CONR^AR^B$

-COR^A, -SO_2R^A,

-$NHCOR^A$,

-NH_2, -NHR^A, or -NR^AR^B,

wherein R^A and R^B are independently a (C_1-C_6)alkyl group, or R^A and R^B taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which may be substituted by ~~(C_1-C_3)alkyl~~(C_1-C3)alkyl, hydroxy, or hydroxy(C_1-C_3)alkyl.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein Z represents cycloalkyl, phenyl or monocyclic-heterocyclic, which is optionally substituted by

(C_1C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, or (C_2-C_6)alkynyl,

phenyl, or halophenyl,

trifluoromethyl,

monocyclic 5 or 6-memberedhetrocyclic,

benzyl, or halophenylmethyl,

hydroxy, phenoxy, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, or hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl,

mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio or mercapto(C_1-C_6)alkyl,

oxo,

nitro,

cyano (-CN),

bromo, chloro, fluoro, or iodo,

-COOH, or -$COOR^A$,

-$CONH_2$, -$CONHR^A$, or-$CONR^AR^B$

-COR^A, -SO_2R^A,

-$NHCOR^A$,

-NH_2, -NHR^A, or -NR^AR^B,

wherein R^A and R^B are independently a (C_1-C_6)alkyl group, or R^A and R^B taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring which may be substituted by ~~(C_1-C_3)alkyl~~(C_1-C_3)alkyl, hydroxy, or hydroxy(C_1-C_3)alkyl.

3. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1~~or claim 2~~ wherein R_1 is hydrogen.

4. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R_2 is (C_1-C_6)alkyl-, cycloalkyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl-, (C_1-C_3)alkyl-S-(C_1-C_3)alkyl-, or (C_1-C_3)alkyl-O-(C_1-C_3)alkyl-.

5. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein R_2 is n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclohexylmethyl or cyclohexylethyl.

6. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1

wherein R_3 is

the characterising group of a natural α amino acid, ~~for example benzyl,~~ or 4-methoxyphenylmethyl, in which any functional group may be protected, any amino group may be acylated and any carboxyl group present may be amidated; or

a group $-[Alk]_nR_9$ where Alk is a (C_1-C_6)alkylene or (C_2-C_6) alkenylene group optionally interrupted by one or more -O-, or -S- atoms or $-N(R_{12})-$ groups [where R_{12} is a hydrogen atom or a (C_1-C_6)alkyl group], n is 0 or 1, and R_9 is hydrogen or an optionally substituted phenyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl group or (only when n is 1) R_9 may additionally be hydroxy, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, amino, halo, trifluoromethyl, nitro, -COOH, $-CONH_2$, $-COOR^A$, $-NHCOR^A$,$-CONHR^A$, $-NHR^A$, $-NR^AR^B$, or $-CONR^AR^B$ wherein R^A and R^B are independently a (C_1-C_6)alkylgroup; or

a benzyl group substituted in the phenyl ring by a group of formula $-OCH_2COR_8$ where R_8 is hydroxyl, amino, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino, di$((C_1-C_6)$alkyl)amino, phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkylamino; or

a heterocyclic (C_1-C_6)alkyl group, either being unsubstituted or mono- or disubstituted in the heterocyclic ring with halo, nitro, carboxy, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, cyano, (C_1-C_6)alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, hydroxy, formyl, amino, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_6)alkylamino, mercapto, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, hydroxy(C_1-C_6)alkyl, mercapto(C_1-C_6)alkyl or (C_1-C_6)alkylphenylmethyl; or

a group-$CR_aR_bR_c$ in which:

each of R_a, R_b and R_c is independently hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, phenyl(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_3-C_8)cycloalkyl; or

R_c is hydrogen and R_a and R_b are independently phenyl or heteroaryl ~~such as~~

~~pyridyl~~; or

R_c is hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, or $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl, and R_a and R_b together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 3 to 8 membered cycloalkyl or a 5-to 6-membered heterocyclic ring; or

R_a, R_b and R_c together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a tricyclic ring ~~(for example adamantyl)~~; or

R_a and R_b are each independently $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, phenyl$(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, or a group as defined for R_c below other than hydrogen, or R_a and R_b together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl or heterocyclic ring, and R is hydrogen, -OH, -SH, halogen, -CN, $-CO_2H$, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$ perfluoroalkyl, $-CH_2OH$, $-CO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-O(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-O(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $-S(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-SO(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-SO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-S(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $-SO(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $-SO_2(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl or a group -Q-W wherein Q represents a bond or -O-, -S-, -SO- or $-SO_2-$ and W represents a phenyl, phenylalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$ cycloalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$ cycloalkylalkyl, $(C_4\text{-}C_8)$ cycloalkenyl, $(C_4\text{-}C_8)$ cycloalkenylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl group, which group W may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from, hydroxyl, halogen , -CN, $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-CONH_2$, $-CONH(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl alkyl, $-CONH(C_1\text{-}C_6\text{alkyl})_2$, -CHO, $-CH_2OH$, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$perfluoroalkyl, $-O(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-S(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-SO(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-SO_2(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-NO_2$, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $-N((C_1\text{-}C_6)\text{alkyl})_2$, $-NHCO(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$alkynyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl, $(C_4\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkenyl, phenyl or

benzyl.

7. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 wherein R_3 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-hydroxybenzyl, phenyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, pyridin-3-ylmethyl, tert-butoxymethyl, naphthylmethyl, iso-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, 1-benzylthio-1-methylethyl, 1-methylthio-1-methylethyl, 1- mercapto-1-methylethyl, 1-methoxy-1-methylethyl, 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl, 1-fluoro- 1-methylethyl,hydroxymethyl, 2-hydroxethyl, 2-carboxyethyl, 2-methylcarbamoylethyl, 2-carbamoylethyl, or 4-aminobutyl.

8. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 wherein R_3 is tert-butyl, isobutyl, benzyl, isopropyl or methyl.

9. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R_4 is methyl.

10. (Currently amended) A compound~~, method, use or composition as claimed in any of the preceding claims~~ as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the group R_5, m is 1, and Alk^1 is $-(CH_2)-$ or $-(CH_2CH_2)-$.

11. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein, in the group R_5, Z is a phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl, furanyl, pyranyl, pyrolyl, diazolyl, triazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, ozadiazolyl, indolyl, benzisozazolyl, benzthiazolyl or imidazothiazolyl ring, optionally substituted as specified in claim 1 ~~of claim 2~~.

12. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 11 wherein the ring Z is unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methoxymethyl, ethylthio, chloro, bromo, hydroxy, nitro, phenyl, 2- or 4-nitrophenyl, dimethylamino, dimethylaminophenyl, methylsulphonyl, dimethylaminosulphonyl, 3-pyridyl or 2-pyrazin-2-yl.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1~~or claim 2~~ wherein the compound is one specifically named and/or exemplified herein, or is the hydroxamate (Q represents a radical of formula -C(=O)NH(OH)) analogue thereof.

14. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment of bacterial infections in humans and non-human mammals, which comprises administering to a subject suffering such infection an antibacterially effective dose of a compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~claim 1.

15. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment of bacterial contamination by applying an antibacterially effective amount of a compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1 to the site of contamination.

16. (Currently amended) The use of a compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1 in the manufacture of an antibacterial composition.

17. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition comprising a compound as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1 together with a pharmaceutical of veterinarily acceptable carrier.

18. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein, in the group R_5, Z is a cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, morpholinyl, pyrimidin-2-yl, 1,2,3-thiadiazol-5-yl, 1,4-thiazol-5-yl, benzofuran-2-yl, 2- or 3-furanyl, 2- or 3-thienyl, 2- or 3-pyranyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyrrolyl, 3-, 4-or 5-pyrazolyl, 3-, 4- or 5- isoxazolyl, or 2-, 3-or 4-pyridyl ring any of which may optionally be substituted by hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, mercapto, methylthio, ethylthio, methyl, ethyl, trfluoromethyl, fluoro, chloro, amino, methylamino, or dimethylamino.